Marine Corps Stationary Lighter Than Air Platform

Industry Day

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Marine Corps Stationary Lighter than air Platform (MCSLaP)

INITIATIVE DESCRIPTION

The Marine Corps Stationary Lighter Than Air Platform (MCSLAP) will provide the Marine Corps with a modular, light weight, durable lifting platform for extended data communications and sensors capability that is easy to transport, erect/assemble and disassemble. It will consist of a minimum number of components including a reusable aerostat, mobile helium inflation/deflation apparatus, equipment payload rack, power and fiber optic transmission cables, and interface equipment necessary to control the operation of the aloft payload. The MCSLAP system will be contained and transported in one High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle (HMMWV) with trailer.

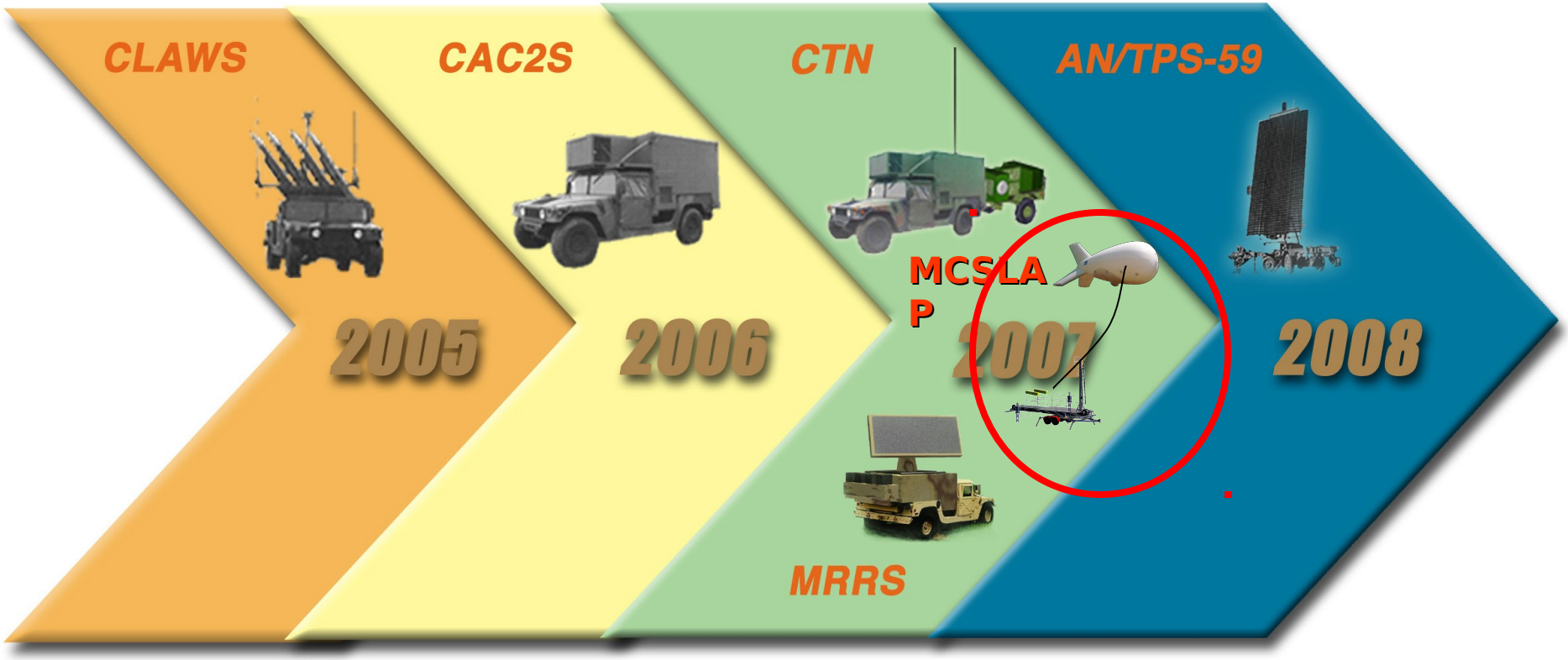
CAPABILITY PROVIDED

Supports the rapid emplacement and displacement of data communications, sensors and related capabilities required for over-the-horizon operations associated with all phases of Expeditionary Maneuver Warfare (EMW).

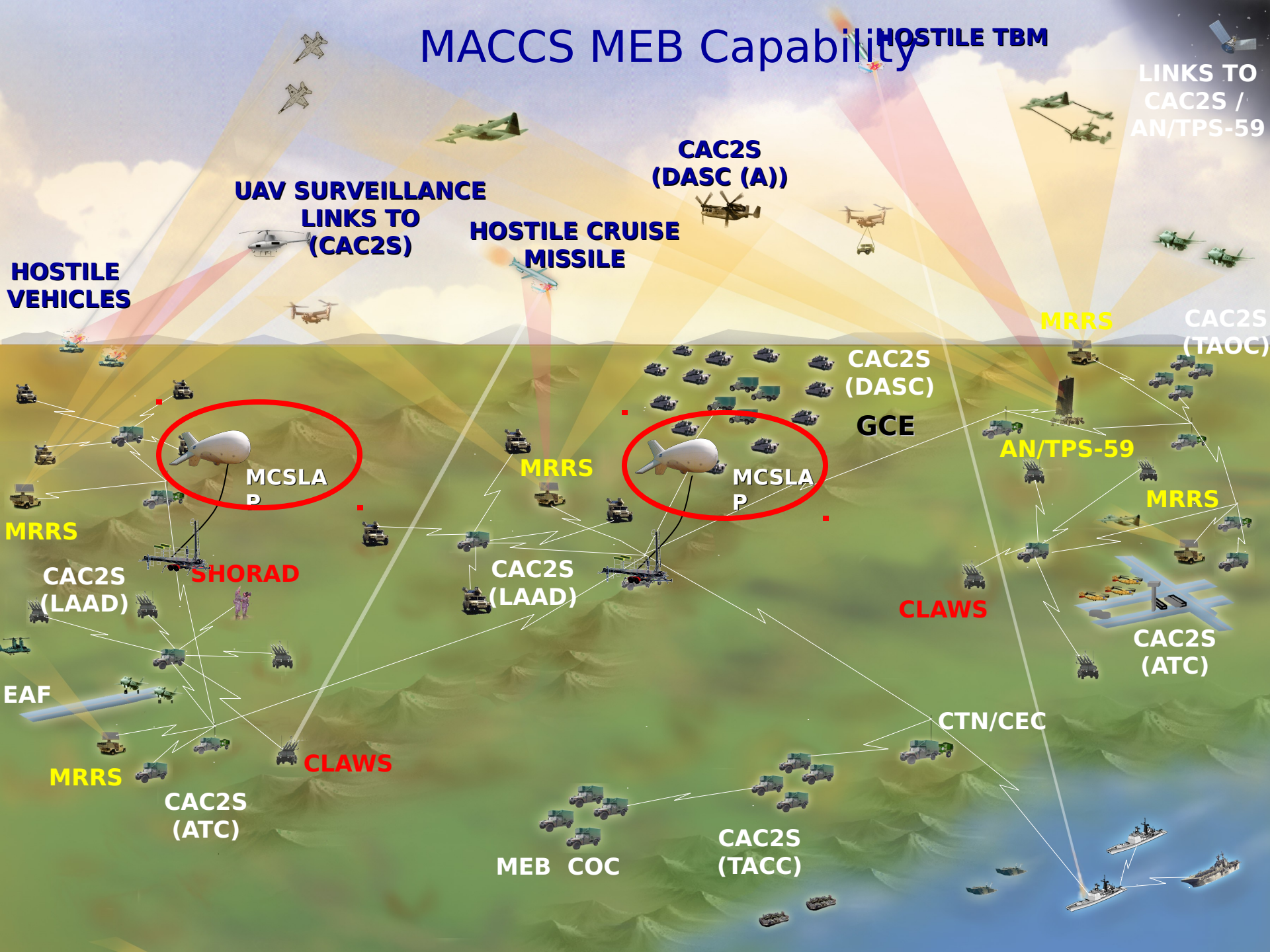
The sensor portion of the payload will provide the extended detection capability for forces at sea and ashore to mitigate battle field threats. The data communications portion of the payload will provide the relay necessary to link units from the battlefield to the shore and at sea Command/Control. The capabilities can be implemented in any type of climate or terrain in which a MAGTF will deploy.

URGENCY/IMPACT IF NOT FUNDED

MCSLAP provides critical beyond line-of-sight data communications and sensor data during all stages of Expeditionary Maneuver Warfare. Any delay in fielding this new start initiative will result in the MAGTF Commander relying on conventional line-of-sight technologies to support USMC EMW missions.



MACCS Sustainment
LAAD Sustainment


MACCS MEB Capability
HOSTILE TBM
LINKS TO CAC2S / AN/TPS-59
CAC2S (DASC (A))
UAV SURVEILLANCE LINKS TO (CAC2S)
HOSTILE CRUISE MISSILE
HOSTILE VEHICLES
MRRS
CAC2S (TAOC)
CAC2S (DASC)
GCE
AN/TPS-59
MCSLAP
MCSLAP
MRRS
MRRS
MRRS
CAC2S (LAAD)
SHORAD
CAC2S (LAAD)
CLAWS
CAC2S (ATC)
EAF
CTN/CEC
MRRS
CLAWS
CAC2S (ATC)
MEB COC
CAC2S (TACC)

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MATURITY: Technical readiness level 6. A concept demonstrator was manufactured to support early JLENS Risk Mitigation and Concept Demonstration. The intent is to integrate existing COTS/GOTS/NDI into a viable system.

I MEF	4	SMCR	4	NALMEB	0	Other	0
II MEF	4	SPT EST	3	DMFA	0		
III MEF	4	MPF	0	WRMR	0	AAO	19

MCSLaP will be fielded to the fleet and the reserves in equal quantities.

RELATED SYSTEMS: CTN, CAC2S, MRRS, TPS-59, and JLENS

ACQUISITION STRATEGY:

Phase I – Develop and build an initial MEB small tactical aerostat capability to support CEC/CTN, data relay connectivity and concept demonstration.

Phase II – Develop and build a full Marine Corps capability to provide aerostat-borne sensor and data relay connectivity.

SCHEDULE:

MS A 1st QTR FY04 **MSB** 2nd QTR FY05 **MSC** 4th QTR FY06 **IOC** 3rd QTR FY07/1st QTR FY10 **FOC** FY15

IOC is defined as two systems.

BUSINESS CONSIDERATIONS: The Acquisition Strategy leverages from integrating off-the-shelf components with engineering applied toward militarizing associated equipment for marine expeditionary use.

ISSUES: None.